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# EC1903 Disease Free Pigs Mean more Money for You

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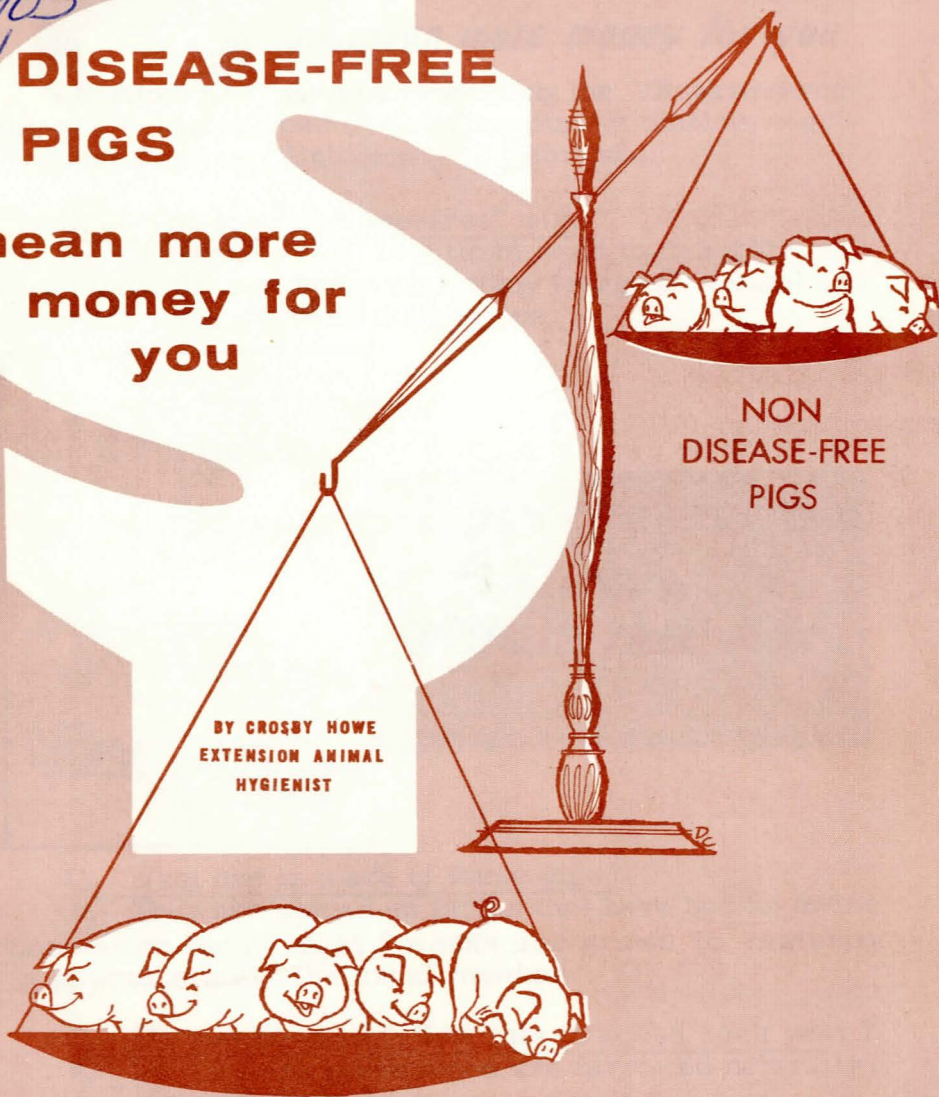
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# DISEASE-FREE PIGS

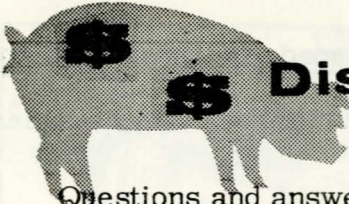
mean more  
money for  
you

BY CROSBY HOWE  
EXTENSION ANIMAL  
HYGIENIST



DISEASE-FREE PIGS

EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AND U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
COOPERATING  
W. V. LAMBERT, DIRECTOR      E. W. JANIKE, ASSOQ. DIRECTOR



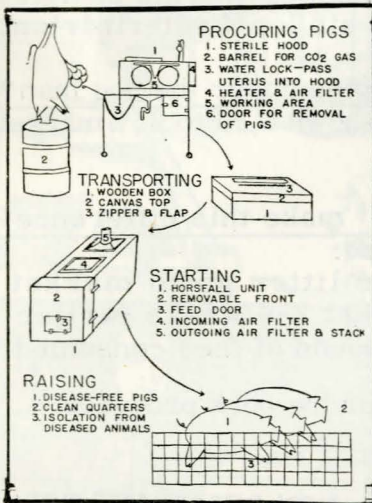
# Disease-Free Pigs

*mean more money for you.*

Questions and answers concerning the "Disease-Free" pig project developed by the Experiment Station, Agricultural Campus, University of Nebraska.

Q. What are "disease-free" pigs?

A. "Disease-free" is a term used to describe pigs taken from the sow by hysterectomy (surgical means) and reared in isolation from other swine.



*Diagram of method used  
to obtain  
**DISEASE-FREE PIGS***

Q. What use is made of these pigs?

A. They are placed on farms that have had no swine population for at least 6 weeks and grown to maturity in approximately the usual manner.

Q. Do you have to follow this process each year?

A. No. Future generations are farrowed naturally.

Q. Why are these pigs free from disease?

A. They are free from the major diseases because they did not have contact following birth with their mothers or other swine that might have been carriers of Atrophic Rhinitis, Virus Pneumonia, and bloody scours.

Q. Is it true that good thrifty, shoats, gilts, sows and boars having every appearance of good health, can be



carriers of the diseases you mentioned, and transmit them to young pigs?

A. Yes, this is the way in which many hog diseases are continued year after year.

Q. You speak of major hog diseases. What about Hog Cholera, Erysipelas and Leptospirosis?

A. We recommend that all pigs be immunized with hog cholera virus of rabbit origin and a small dose of anti-hog cholera serum. Erysipelas and Leptospirosis are diseases that may continue to be present on a farm in the absence of swine. We do not recommend a routine vaccination program for these diseases. This decision must be made by the owner and his local veterinarian.

Q. What will "disease-free" pigs do for the hog man?

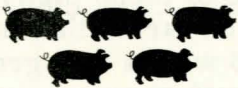


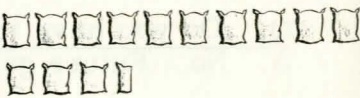



A. "Disease-free" pigs have shown a 20 to 25% market advantage.

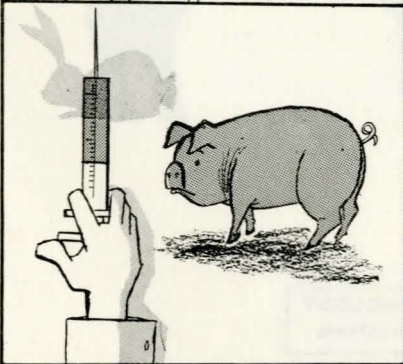
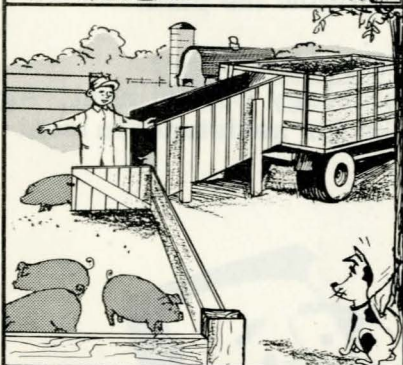
Q. How can "disease-free" make this difference?

A. The chief advantages are:

1. More pigs per litter go to market
2. Pigs go to market 2-4 weeks earlier
3. More pork per pound of feed consumed

These add up to more profit for the pork producer.

	DISEASE-FREE PIGS	NON DISEASE-FREE PIGS
PIGS WEANED / LITTER		
FEED CONVERSION (lbs. feed / 100 lbs. pork produced)		
RETURN OVER FEED (cost / 100 lbs. pork produced)		
RETURN / HOUR LABOR		



Q. After I get a start with "disease-free" pigs how do I keep them "disease-free"?

A. Here is how it is done:

1. Remove all swine from premise.

2. Replace with "disease-free" pigs after a 6 week or longer period. During the period when no swine are on the premise, all equipment is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

3. Maintain a closed herd. No other hogs come on the place unless they are of disease-free stock.

4. Do not enter hog lot unless wearing clean outer clothing and clean boots or overshoes.

5. Do not allow any one else to enter the hog lot without following the same precautions.

6. Do not allow trucks or other vehicles to enter hog lot.

7. Keep dog out of hog lot or at least see that your dog does not visit other farms.

8. Protect herd from hog cholera by regular vaccination with anti-hog cholera serum, rabbit origin virus.



Q. Isn't that a lot of trouble just to raise hogs?

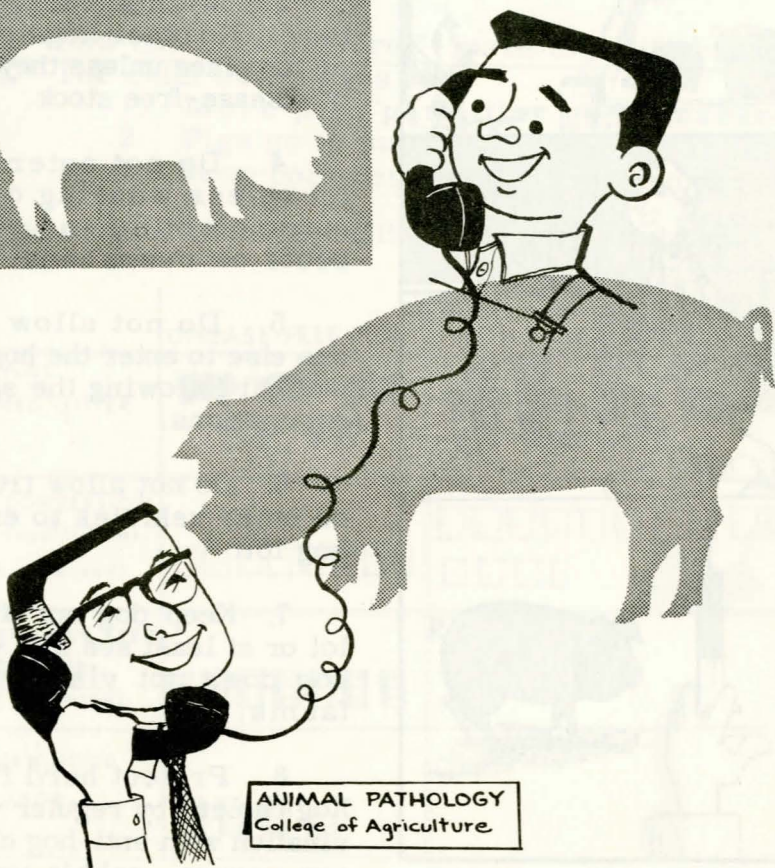
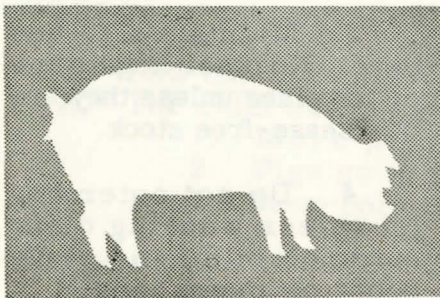
A. No. With a little practice and planning you can do all these things with very little extra time and effort. By following these practices with "disease-free" swine you can make money.

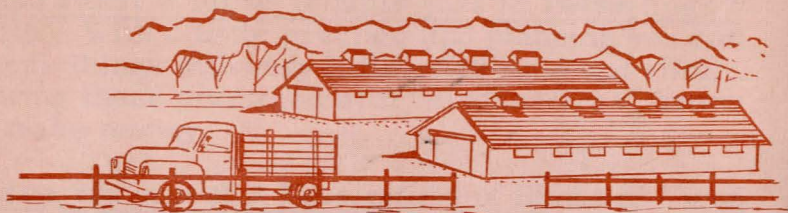
Q. Are you sure that I can get rid of Rhinitis, Virus Pneumonia and bloody scours by switching to "disease-free" pigs?

A. You certainly can. Talk it over with your veterinarian, set up a plan, and then follow the plan.

Q. Where can I get "disease-free" pigs?

A. Contact the Animal Pathology Department, Ag Campus, University of Nebraska for assistance in locating known clean herds.





***Disease-Free  
Pigs mean  
more money  
for YOU***